year in the shape of grants to school-going children. 21 students are being paid stipends for technical education. 205 houses were constructed in the course of the year for habitation to families of the backward classes, and 80 more houses are under construction. Several libraries and night schools are being run at different centres for the benefit of the backward classes. Lands are assigned to members of the backward classes on concessional terms. It is my Government's intention that by the spread of education and by the improvement of the general economic conditions the backward classes should be placed in a position in which they will be able to hold their own in the competitive world to-day.

LAW AND ORDER

29. The Constitution has conferred on every citizen of the State certain invaluable rights and privileges like freedom of speech, freedom of association and freedom of the press. No one is more zealous than my Government in maintaining these rights and privileges unimpaired. But my Government cannot tolerate the licentiousness which passes for freedom of speech or freedom of the Press. It undermines the decencies of public life and tends to create ill-will and hatred among the different classes of the community. Extraordinary evils call for extraordinary remedies. My Government will not hesitate to exercise to the fullest extent necessary the powers which the law has placed in their hands to rid the country of all subversive forces.

FINANCIAL POSITION

30. My Government do not propose to introduce any new taxation during the ensuing year. By a careful husbanding of our resources the State's adverse balances have been practically wiped out. Satisfactory arrangements have also been made between my Government and the Central Government in regard to payments towards the budget gap due to federal financial integration. Proposals for the apportionment of assets and liabilities between the State and the Central Government are being finalised. As the result of federal financial integration, the State has also become eligible for loans, grants and food subsidies from the Government of India in the same manner as Part 'A' States.

31. We are living in hard times. The uncertainties of the international situation are having their reactions on the nation's economy. Trade and Industries are subject to severe handicaps. Agriculture has suffered from natural calamities. Several new problems of administration are confronting all Governments from day to day. In our State we have a highly literate and intelligent public, who take a lively interest in the administration of the State. Their support and discerning criticism are at once the strength and inspiration of my Government. My Government are confident that with the goodwill and co-operation of the people of the State, they will be able to overcome all obstacles and to create conditions of well-being and prosperity for every section of the Community.

Thank you.

After the speech, His Highness the Rajpramukh departed from the Assembly Chamber. Copies of the address were distributed to the Members as directed by the Speaker.

The Speaker then took the Chair.

Announcement regarding the death of Dr. (Mrs.) T. Francis and motion of condolence

മി. സ്പീക്കർ : സ്പീകർഷിപ്പായി സംവരണം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള എറണാകുളം നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽനിന്നും ഈ നിയമസഭയിലേയ്ക്ക് തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ട ശ്രീ

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